

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing hypocalcemia, wherein characterized ~~in that~~ a vitamin D derivative is transvaginally administered to a domestic mammal.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of preventing hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~in which~~ the domestic mammal is a cow.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of preventing hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 1 [[or 2]], including administering an intravaginal insert containing the vitamin D derivative to a vaginal cavity.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of preventing hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of claims 1 to 3, in which~~ the vitamin D derivative administered intravaginally is absorbed in the vaginal cavity of the domestic mammal to increase a calcium concentration in the body, thereby preventing the disease.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of preventing hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of claims 1 to 4, in which~~ the vitamin D derivative is 1 $\alpha$ -hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> or 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub>.

6. (Original) A method of curing hypocalcemia, including transvaginally administering a vitamin D derivative to a domestic mammal.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of curing hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 6, wherein ~~in which~~ the domestic mammal is a cow.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of curing hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 6 [[or 7]], including administering an intravaginal insert containing the vitamin D derivative to a vaginal cavity.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of curing hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 6, wherein ~~any one of claims 6 to 8, in which~~ the vitamin D derivative administered intravaginally is absorbed in the vaginal cavity of the domestic mammal to increase a calcium concentration in the body, thereby curing the disease.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of curing hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 6, wherein ~~any one of claims 6 to 9, in which~~ the vitamin D derivative is  $1\alpha$ -hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> or 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub>.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of treating hypocalcemia, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ a vitamin D derivative is transvaginally administered to a domestic mammal.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of treating hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 11, wherein [[in which]] the domestic mammal is a cow.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of treating hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 11 [[or 12]], including administering an intravaginal insert containing the vitamin D derivative to a vaginal cavity.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of treating hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 11, wherein ~~any one of claims 11 to 13, in which~~ the vitamin D derivative administered intravaginally is absorbed in the vaginal cavity of the domestic mammal to increase a calcium concentration in the body, thereby treating the disease.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of treating hypocalcemia as claimed in claim 11, wherein ~~any one of claims 11 to 14, in which~~ the vitamin D derivative is  $1\alpha$ -hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> to 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub>.